



Region 4
4600 Giant Spring Road
Great Falls, MT, 59405-0901

Decision Notice & Finding of No Significant Impact on Medicine River FAS:

July 15, 2015

Description of Proposed Action:

FWP proposes to make improvements to the existing Medicine River fishing access site, including extending the access road to new boat launch area, developing a new parking area, boundary and riparian fencing, and regulatory signs.

Public Comment:

FWP accepted public comment for a 30 day period June 8th to July 8th 2015. The EA was advertised through the FWP website and public notices in the newspapers. Copies were available at the main FWP office in Helena and R4 office in Great Falls. There were 11 comments made during the comment period.

Responses to Comments:

All but one of the comments showed support in the improvement project scheduled for Medicine River FAS. There was a comment about possibly adding a picnic table in the area and that will be place after construction is finished. Another comment was from a volunteer at the Sun River Fire Department about placing a dry hydrant near the river. We have been in contact with the Fire Department and will be working with them to see that a dry hydrant gets installed there.

Of the 11 comments received 10 supported the proposal and focused on road extension, boat ramp, better easier access to the river, and general improvements to the site. One of the 11 comments was negative and reflected a concern about FAS sites drawing in users that cause problems and less desirable activities from a certain type user.

Decision

Based on the Environmental Assessment and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to move forward with the site development plans.

I find there is no significant impacts on human and physical environments associated with this project. Therefore, I conclude that the Environmental Assessment is the appropriate level of analysis, and that the Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gary Bertellotti". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Gary Bertellotti
FWP Region 4 Supervisor